

2nd International Conference
**Micro Perspectives for
Decentralized Energy Supply**

Feb. 27 to Mar. 1, 2013 in Berlin, Germany

Research Group
Microenergy-Systems



The role of energy in development processes

Starts 11:45

Ends 13:20

The first part of the session was focused on the issues of the Energy Poor and the Energy Poverty Cycle. What do we need for breaking energy poverty cycle? A coordinated collaboration between governments, development partners, private sector, civil society and financial institutions. It is important to state the need of an integral framework of different environmental, social and economical aspects regarding energy projects and not only technological solutions.

The second part of the session was focused on the local impacts of energy products regarding added value and employment as well as livelihoods flows and capabilities. Bioenergy for the rural poor? Bioenergy makes the rural poor! Bioenergy deployment has a great impact on the land work and use, the collective efforts of people as well as the local communities production.

Participants questions at the Panel Discussion:

- How to evaluate the impact of the development projects?
Effective monitoring and evaluation cycles to have evidence and comparison of what has been done.

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- What is the dimension of the gender equity regarding energy poverty?
The impact of energy poverty is definitely bigger for women and girls than men. And after some pre and post monitoring in energy projects was found out that the time spent by women for collecting resources has been decreased from 4 hours to 1 hour.
- How governments are responding?
Decentralized systems are not high importance in the government agendas because of financial issues as well as the minimal contribution on the energy diversity. However, the awareness is raising about creating new policies to involve private sector, development agencies and people participation programs
- How to measure energy poverty/ development? Causality?
There are some indicators measuring Human Development Index, Education level, GDP, Happiness Index, participation evaluations, micro finance schemes and also to measure the motivation of the people must be importante to impulse micro-finance models for energy projects
There is reason to believe that we have a bi-causality that is turning at a certain point.
Also ther is reason to believe that GDP as indicator is especially insufficient at the lower income level.
- Quantitative vs. qualitative assessments?
We should be fair to ourself to distinguish between things we measure quantitatively and the things we can not. And then th response is not to neglect the things we can not measure quantitativley but to complement them qualitatively.

Participant list

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